

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To: PAUL FENSTER
FENSTER & COMPANY PATENT ATTORNEYS
LTD.
P.O. BOX 10256
PETACH TIKVA, ISRAEL 49002

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT OR THE DECLARATION

(PCT Rule 44.1)

Date of Mailing
(day/month/year)

26 APR 2000

Applicant's or agent's file reference
092/01087

FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below

International application No.
PCT/IL99/00399

International filing date
(day/month/year)
20 JULY 1999

Applicant
EASYNET ACCESS INC.

1. ☒ The applicant is hereby notified that the international search report has been established and is transmitted herewith.

Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:
The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the international application (see Rule 46):

When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally 2 months from the date of transmittal of the international search report; however, for more details, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.
2. ☐ The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect is transmitted herewith.
3. ☐ With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:
 - ☐ the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.
 - ☐ no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.
4. **Further action(s):** The applicant is reminded of the following:

Shortly after 18 months from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in rules 90 *bis* 1 and 90 *bis* 3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

Within 19 months from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later).

Within 20 months from the priority date, the applicant must perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before all designated Offices which have not been elected in the demand or in a later election within 19 months from the priority date or could not be elected because they are not bound by Chapter II.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

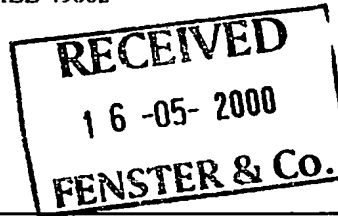
ALLEN MACDONALD

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 092/01087	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/IL99/00399	International filing date (day/month/year) 20 JULY 1999	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 20 JULY 1998
Applicant EASYNET ACCESS INC.		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 6 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).
2. ☒ Unity of invention is lacking (See Box II).
3. ☐ The international application contains disclosure of a nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing and the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing
 - ☐ filed with the international application.
 - ☐ furnished by the applicant separately from the international application,
 - ☐ but not accompanied by a statement to the effect that it did not include matter going beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed.
 - ☐ transcribed by this Authority.
4. With regard to the title, ☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
 - ☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:
5. With regard to the abstract,
 - ☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
 - ☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.
6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is:
 - Figure No. 1 ☒ as suggested by the applicant.
 - ☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
 - ☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.
 - ☐ None of the figures.

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

Please See Extra Sheet.

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

☐

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

☒

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

NEW ABSTRACT

A method of pre-paid Internet access comprising accessing the Internet using a prepaid account and performing one or more activities while connected to said Internet, which activities modify the balance in addition to the act of access which causes a deduction from the balance of said account. A configuration of a preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated in Figure 1. When a user computer (12) is to be connected to the Internet (14), the connection is preferably mediated by a pre-paid server (16), which manages the act of connecting user (12) to Internet (14) and also acts to bill the user for the Internet access. Once user (12) is connected to Internet (14), the connection may pass through pre-paid server (16). Alternatively or additionally, the set-up connection may be direct between user (12) and Internet (14).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/IL99/00399**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(7) : G06F 17/60

US CL : 705/14, 27; 295/200.31, 33; 434/350, 379/12

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 705/14, 26, 29, 32, 34, 39, 40; 395/200.54, 295/200.31, 200.33, 434/350, 379/12

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
NONEElectronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
WEST (US PAT, EPAB, JPAB, DWPI, TDBD)**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,920,848 A (SCHUTZER et al) 06 July 1999; see entire document	1-37
A	US 5,852,812 A (REEDER) 22 December 1998, col. 4 L 65- col. 6 L 65	1-6
A	US 5,806,043 A (TOADER) 08 September 1998, col. 3 L 45- col. 6 L 55.	1-6, 9-17, 19, 36-37, 69
X	US 5,749,075 A (TOADER et al) 05 May 1998, col. 3 L 1-58	1-6, 9, 10-13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 69-79, 81-84
X	US 5,721,827 A (LOGAN et al) 24 February 1998, abstract, col. 5 L 7- 67	59-63

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
E earlier document published on or after the international filing date	*Y* document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	*G* document member of the same patent family
O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

04 APRIL 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

26 APR 2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
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Washington, D.C. 20231

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 98/04088 A (BONNAURE et al) 29 January 1998, p.3 (Summary of the Invention), p 13-29 and Figures 11-18	38-43
A	US 5,742,768 A (GENNARO et al.) 21 April 1998, entire document	59-63
X	US 5,727,950 A (COOK et al) 17 March 1998, abstract, col. 8 L 48- col. 22 L 30	51-54, 60-63, 85-87
A	US 5,761,499 A (SONDREGGER) 02 June 1998, entire document	51-54, 59-63, 60-63
A	US 5,732,219 A (BLUMMER et al) 24 March 1998, entire document	51-54, 59-63
X,P	US 5,796,832 A (KAWAN) 18 August 1998, entire document	81-84
X	US 5,577,109 A (STIMSON et al) 19 November 1996, entire document	81-84
X	US 5,722,067 A (FOUGNIES et al) 24 February 1998, entire document	69-72, 81-84
X	US 5,768,521 A (DEDRICK) 16 June 1998, abstract, col. 2 L 40- col. 4 L 38	44-50

BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION WAS LACKING

This ISA found multiple inventions as follows:

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be searched, the appropriate additional search fees must be paid.

Group I: Claims 1-37, 44-50 and 69-87 are drawn to a method of payment and billing for the Internet access.

Group II: Claims 38-43 are drawn to the Internet connection including selection of an ISP (Internet Service Provider).

Group III: Claims 51-54 are drawn to a method of configuring a computer for the Internet access.

Group IV: Claims 55-58 are drawn to a method of placing and controlling presentation of an electronic advertisement based on a prepaid account.

Group V: Claims 59-63 are drawn to a system for construction of a WWW site based on inputs from a user.

and

Group VI: Claims 64-68 are drawn to a method of connection to a URL on the Internet.

The inventions listed as Groups I through VI do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

Group I is drawn to a method of payment and billing for the Internet access. The inventions recited in Groups II-VI lack technical features to form a single inventive concept present in Group I.

Group II is drawn to a method for the Internet connection via selection of an ISP. The inventions recited in Groups I and III-VI lack technical features to form a single inventive concept present in Group II.

Group III is drawn to a method of configuring a computer for the Internet access. The inventions recited in Groups I, II and IV-VI lack technical features to form a single inventive concept present in Group III.

Group IV is drawn to a method of placing and controlling presentation of an electronic advertisement based on a prepaid account. The inventions recited in Groups I-III, V and VI lack technical features to form a single inventive concept present in Group IV.

Group V is drawn to a system for construction of a WWW site based on inputs from a user. The inventions recited in Groups I-IV and VI lack technical features to form a single inventive concept present in Group V.

Group VI is drawn to a method of connection to a URL on the Internet. The inventions recited in Groups I-V lack technical features to form a single inventive concept present in Group V.